

To: Conlon, Nora[conlon.nora@epa.gov]
Cc: Snook, Hilary[snook.hilary@epa.gov]
From: Nelson, Eric
Sent: Wed 9/30/2015 8:09:46 PM
Subject: RE: Draft QAPP for review
Asian Clam Sampling QAPP 30Sept2015 draft.docx

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Hi Nora and Hilary:

Attached is the latest draft of the QAPP for your review. Still a few gaps, but working to close them. Nora, my responses to your questions/comments are incorporated into your message below. I'll be around all day tomorrow if you have any questions or suggestions.

Thanks for your help.

Eric

Eric P. Nelson

Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit

Unit Dive Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

New England Region, 5 Post Office Square,

Suite 100, Mail Code OEP06-1, Boston, MA 02109-3912

Ph: 617.918.1676 -- nelson.ericp@epa.gov

From: Conlon, Nora

Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:35 PM

To: Nelson, Eric

Subject: RE: Draft QAPP for review

Hi Eric,

I've read your draft QAPP and think it's a good start. I have a couple of suggestions for details which you may already be considering.

1. List the number of locations – is there a reason to collect a duplicate sample at one location to see if the density of clams is somewhat uniform? **Are you suggesting we do replicates? I've gone back and forth on this question, but spoke with Rick Sugatt who is supposedly familiar with Superfund sampling designs, and he suggested what is now contained in the QAPP (20 samples within the thermal influence and 20 outside) See Figure 2. I'd like to**

hear your thoughts. Doing some percentage with replicates could be doable, but I'd like to limit the number of samples as much as I can while still keeping the data collected meaningful.

2. Site figure which includes the area to be sampled as well as the upstream (background) location. **This has been done. See Figure 2.**

3. Are there any difficulties that should be addressed on identifying the clams? **Not identifying clams. There should be no other clam species present. Other macroinverts are the problem. I'm working on getting contract support for bug id and enumeration.**

4. Will you be measuring/mapping the temperature gradient from the point of discharge from the power plant or is it already known? I understand you will be measuring water temperature at the point of sediment collection. **While we'll be taking surface temps at the sampling locations, the thermal plume behavior is fairly well-understood. I've included a line on the sampling grid that represents the approximate ice edge during mid-winter when the Merrimack freezes from shore-to-shore immediately upstream from the plant's discharge canal. I've decided to drop sediment samples since I think there is adequate existing information.**

So, just a few thoughts for you. Have you determined when sample collection will occur? **Still planning for October 14 and 15 (if necessary).**

Nora

From: Nelson, Eric

Sent: Monday, September 14, 2015 9:18 AM

To: Conlon, Nora <conlon.nora@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Draft QAPP for review

Good Morning, Nora.

Despite a real desire to get into the field next week and conduct this survey, there are several aspects to the sampling design that I need to more fully consider, discuss with Hilary, and incorporate into the QAPP, so I don't see everything being in place by then. That said, I would very much like you to review and comment on what I've submitted to you so I have a sense of how you think it looks, and what else I need to work on. I'd be shooting for one of the first two weeks in October, depending on the availability of Hilary and the rest of the sampling team.

Thanks again for your help with this.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Eric

Eric P. Nelson

Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit

Unit Dive Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

New England Region, 5 Post Office Square,

Suite 100, Mail Code OEP06-1, Boston, MA 02109-3912

Ph: 617.918.1676 -- nelson.ericp@epa.gov

From: Conlon, Nora

Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 8:52 AM

To: Nelson, Eric

Subject: RE: Draft QAPP for review

Hi Eric,

I was traveling to ME for work the past couple of days. I will review the plan on Monday. If you can resolve any comments I may have next week, then you should be able to go out by 9/22. It's quite hectic in our office right now but this plan is short and hopefully in good shape so I will slip it into my review pile.

Thanks,

Nora

From: Nelson, Eric

Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 4:29 PM

To: Conlon, Nora

Subject: Draft QAPP for review

Hi Nora:

As promised, attached you'll find the draft QAPP for the sampling I'm *hoping* to conduct in two weeks. I know this is a short deadline, but perhaps you can take a look at it and give me some sense of whether or not there is any chance of finalizing it before September 22. I completely understand if you think I need to delay the sampling. I'm out in the field tomorrow, but will be back in Thursday.

Thanks for considering this request.

Best,

Eric

Eric P. Nelson

Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit

Unit Dive Officer

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Suite 100, Mail Code OEP06-1, Boston, MA 02109-3912

Ph: 617.918.1676 -- nelson.ericp@epa.gov